WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter
May 1990

Volume 1 Number 3

Officers: Acting President.....Gwen Phelps
Vice President.....Ronnie Comstock
General Secretary.....Washington County Library
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Table of Contents

Plank Roads of North Carolina
William Bowen Family Chart
Photos of Henry and Nancy Bowen
Impressions of Roper
John M. Bowen Cemetary
Record of Marriages in Washington County, N.C. - 1851
"Graveyards" from The Roanoke Beacon - 1929
Queries

We would like to thank the following for their contributions to this issue

Donald P. Jones - Chesapeake, Virginia
Gail B. Souza - San Leandro, California
Jean Thompson - Roper, North Carolina
Sandy Marriner - Roper, North Carolina
John Oden III - Pinetown, North Carolina
Sylvia Whitford - Plymouth, North Carolina

The editors reserve the right to edit materials submitted for publication.

Membership dues starting March 1990 - December 1990 are $10.00 each or $15.00 a family. Our newsletter is mailed around the 15th of each month to members only. If you are a member, please pass along the membership blank to someone else. We would appreciate any zerox copies of photos, family charts, jokes, anecdotes, cartoons, family stories or anything to do with genealogy that would be helpful for our newsletter. All queries are free for 1990.

The Washington County Genealogical Society will not meet in May. Our next meeting will be June 24, 1990 at 3:00pm at the Washington County Library. Everyone is invited.

PLANK ROADS OF NORTH CAROLINA

The early plank roads in North Carolina (circa 1855 - 1860). numbered in the many hundreds of miles. They were nearly all built from three and four inch, heart, longleaf pine, planks, placed side by side on heart pine stringers. A layer of sand spread on top of the planks made the road ready for use. Most of the roads were eight feet wide; although the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road, a major line, was ten feet wide.

During the peak of their construction, there were numerous stream sawmills engaged in cutting planks, more than 100,000 feet per day.

The toll, on these plank roads, was usually a half cent per mile for a man on horseback, one cent for one horse and wagon or cart, two cents for a two-horse team, three cents for a three-horse team and four cents for a six-horse team.

The toll gates were eleven miles apart. There was a five dollar fine for trying to skip payment of a toll.

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER CONTEST RESULTS

Congratulations go to Bettie Dall of Dinuba, California. She is our first place winner in the Name Our Newsletter Contest. She wins a year's free membership for her "Washington County Roots and Vines" entry. This was the 'choice of the people' at our monthly meetings. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the new look that this will give our newsletter in the near future.

To all the people who were kind enough to enter our contest, we do thank you. It was a very hard decision to make since the entire field of selection was excellent.

The results were as follows:

1st place - Bettie Dall of Dinuba, California
"Washington County Roots and Vines"

2nd place - Wanda Ralph Cherry of Columbia, NC
"The Family Tree and You"

3rd place - Lawrence Swain of Plymouth, NC
"Albemarle Genesis"

NOTE:
X = Direct Ancestor
✓ = LDS Temp. Ord. Compl.

FAMILY UNIT CHART

PREPARED BY J. H. Oden, Rt 1, Box 330, Pinetown, NC 27865 DATE

HUSBAND Bowen WILLIAM "BILLY" SR. OCCUPATION ANCESTRAL CHART # FAMILY UNIT #

	DATE – DAY, MONTH, YEAR	CITY	COUNTY	STATE or COUNTRY	
Born	21 JUNE 1799				H.H. Bowen BIBLE
Christened					Bowen Cemetery
Married					ELIZABETH STUBBS ODEN BIBLE
Died	14 June 1874				Wm BOWEN WILL
Buried	Bowen Cem.	Long Acre	Washington	N.C.	ATHENS CH CEM

FATHER JOHN Bowen
MOTHER SALLY Ann (SARAH) HUNTER
OTHER WIVES:

WIFE maiden name RHODA RESPESS

Born	7 JULY 1799				
Christened					
Died	5 DEC. 1885				J. H. Oden
Buried	Bowen CEM.	LONG ACRE	Washington Co.	N.C	~~Rt 1, Box 330~~ ~~Pinetown, NC 27865~~

FATHER LANGLEY RESPESS I
MOTHER ELIZABETH
OTHER HUSBANDS:

X ✓	SEX M/F	CHILDREN Living, Adopted, Dead—In Order of Birth	BIRTH Day Month Year	BIRTHPLACE City	County	St./Cty.	DATE OF FIRST MARRIAGE Name of Spouse	DATE OF DEATH City County State/Country
	M	1 HENRY HUNTER	11 Feby. 1823				1 DEC. 1848 Ann Latham BOYD	11 FEBY. 1907 Washington Co, N.C.
	M	2 WILLIAM J	10 OCT. 1825				(1) ELIZABETH BOYD 13 MAR. 1856	13 NOV. 1909
	M	3 LANGLEY RESPESS	9 MAR. 1828				MARTHA Frances Oden	2 APR. 1902
	F	4 SALLYAN HUNTER	8 NOV. 1830				NEVER MARRIED	21 SEPT. 1898
	M	5 GEORGE WASHINGTON	30 DEC. 1833					21 JULY 1898
	F	6 Rhoda J	23 JUNE 1841	M 2) CUTLER (GILES)			MARY ELIZABETH Oden 11 DEC. 1856	19 SEPT 1893
	F	7 ELIZABETH Frances	14 APR 1836				JAMES L BATEMAN 21 DEC. 1855	BEAU Co. 30 Oct 1901 ?
		8					HORRIS ODEN	BEAU.
		9						
		10						
		11						
		12						
		13						
		14						

Henry Hunter Bowen
1823-1907

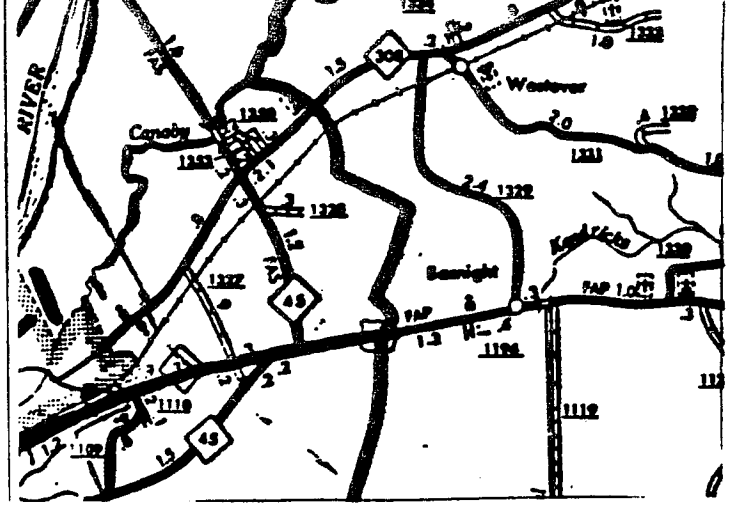
Nancy "Ann" Latham Boyd Bowen
1824-1903

Photos submitted by John Oden of Pinetown

To 1990 Members:

I would like all our members to send a picture of themselves (baby, child or recent or any combination). "Zerox copy will be fine" along with a little info (example: name, birth, marriage, children, parents and accomplishments in life). If there is any other information you would like to have included, please send that too. This information will be included in a booklet recognizing the charter members of our organization. You are one of the ones who made it possible for our Society to begin. If you haven't sent one of this in, please do so soon because I don't wnat to leave anyone out. Mail information to:

Veronica Haskett
101 Bennett Drive
Plymouth, N.C. 27962



John M. Bowen Cemetery

Plymouth Township - Washington County - Plymouth, N.C.

Searched - February 17, 1990 by Vance & Veronica Haskett

Location-Follow Hwy 64-turn on Hwy 45 next to Pines Elementary School-turn in at the Senior Citizens Building-go all the way to the back-Cemetery is fenced in and is padlocked.

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1. Sitterson, Christine E.-In memory of Mother-wife of T.J. Sitterson-1860-Mar 18, 1904-Weep not, she is at rest- Footstone: C.E.S.
2. Freeman, Nancy-In memory of-consort of W.T. Freeman-June 22, 1830-Sept 19, 1896 - Age: 66 years and 27 days
3. Bowen, John Junior-son of M.L. & Blanch Bowen-Jan 26, 1917-June 16, 1918- At rest - (Lamb on top of stone)-Footstone: J.J.B.
4. Bowen, Fredda-Apr 20, 1892-June 1, 1892-At rest-Footstone: F.B.
5. Bowen, Alma Louise-daughter of S.G. & Norah N. Bowen-Feb 14, 1920-Sept 17, 1920-Budded on earth to bloom in Heaven-Footstone: A.L.B.
6. Davis, Ella L. Bowen-wife of S.N. Davis-Nov 13, 1889-May 26, 1921- As a wife devoted, as a mother affectionate, as a friend ever kind and true
7. Davis, Ruby L.-daughter of S.N. & Ella L. Davis-July 17, 1918-Sept 25, 1924- The love in flower has faded- Footstone: R.L.D.
8. Bowen, Eva Mae-wife of L.L. Bowen-Nov 3, 1896-Oct 13, 1918- A loving wife- Gone but not forgotten (Broken)-Footstone: E.M.B.
9. Bowen, -Infant son of L.L. & E.M. Bowen-Born & Died: Oct 10, 1918- From mother's arms to the arms of Jesus- Footstone: (Blank)
10. Bowen, Mamie L.-Aug 12, 1888-Nov 20, 1915-Gone but not forgotten-Never will her memory fade-Sweetest thought will never linger-Around the grave where she was laid-FS: M.L.B.
11. Bowen, James O.-Dec 10, 1876-Oct 25, 1947-At rest-Footstone: J.O.B.

contd-page 2

John M. Bowen Cemetery (continued-page 2)

12. Bowen, Alice L.-wife of John M. Bowen-Oct 4, 1852-May 9, 1935-Mother-At Rest
13. Bowen, John M.-Feb 26, 1848-July 14, 1926-Bowen-His toils are past, his work is done, he fought the fight the victory won-Footstone: J.M.B.
14. Turner, Mary A.-July 31, 1875-Jan 2, 1966
15. Turner, William H.-Husband-Mar 26, 1872-Nov 24, 1925-It was hard indeed to part with thee-But Christ's strong arm supported me
16. _____ - Funeral Marker-no information
17. Davis, Stuart, Jr.-Born: May 1921-Brother of Flonnie Joyner (info from her)-no stone
18. Davis, Ruby-No stone-Sister of Flonnie Joyner (information from Flonnie Joyner)

Impressions Of Roper

By Author of Trials and Tribulations

(Reprint including original spelling, punctuation and typographical error, from the PERQUIMANS RECORD of Hertford, Wednesday, January 23, 1895)

In writing up a town of lightning growth, like Roper, N.C., it is generally the custom to let an avalanch of strong adjection, describing its natural advantages and winding up with a peroration devoted to the material progress and developments of the metropolis of Albemarle. This article is not intended to convey the idea that Roper's walls are made of "Jasper" or its streets paved with gold, that it is the birthplace of the People's Party, or that Free Silver will make its people a mass of money, linen, silk and starch.

It is written by one who has labored in the veneyard and was fed by the crumbs that fell from the wayside tables until nothing remained but the rose embroidered memories of the past. The people are clever, industrious and take kindly to stranger. Here they have thriving schools neat and well conducted churches, good produce markets, a system of electric lights in contemplation and an Opra House where the "musical talent" can raise the roof with tempestous storms of passion an dapplause.

The great mills of the Roper Lumber Co. are situated there and with a daily capacity of several thousand feet of lumber, they give employment to a vast number of people who prefer the continual grind of a buzz saw in preferance to following a blind mule and plow nine months in the year, raising cotton and exchanging the whole bale for one good Christmas dinner, The N & S R,R runs through the town and helps in its proportionate way to pull along the destiny of Roper as a great shipping point until the Coast Line come.

To the close f isted, keen scented, wide-awake Thos. W. Blount (who like the lamented Vance when he lost an optichas. an eye single to the interst and) belongs the credit of raising Roper from the little rat trap on the mill pond to the "Babel" of commercial triumph. What John Jacob astor was to New York, what Stephen Girard was to Philadelphia, wha Enoch Pratt was to Baltimore Tom Blount is to Roper, and his work stands today as a living monument, showing what the sacred spark of ambition mated with stainless integrity and splendid aspirations can accomplish, and it is of Roper's present and future I am writing. For a town not ten years old that can give a hungry pilgrim fresh fish, game, beefsteak and fried oysters three times a day, speaks in a mightier tone than a thousand so called American Statesmen clamaring for free Whiskey in the Wilson Tarriff Bill.

But the fellow who goes there to subsist on air, who goes there to raise his board and rent like soda raises biscuits and without working had better go to the bank and draw his breath or else fold his little white wings and sink to rest just outside of town,—for there is no hiding place down there." It's a hustling place, The log trains lull you to sleep at night; and when the glorious sun rises from its Eastern couch and gives promise of another glorious day, its first gleam shows the ambient air filled with flying sawdust. Such a place is Roper with its big-hearted people, its tireless workmen, its throbbing engines, mooving, rumbling and rolling along with the procession its its onward march to prosperity. When the tide of emigration turns its Southward course and all the nations of the Earth are settled there, the German will drink his beer tje Chiman washu shirtu and the nigger steal his watermellon, but the man of leisure must hie himself to Pantego or Bellpon[illegible] search of pastures green.

W. G. Cox

RECORD OF MARRIAGES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, N. C., 18RE

Date of Licence.	NAMES OF PERSONS MARRIED.	When Married.	BY WHOM MARRIED.
1851 Feby. 19th	Fred. Spruill	1852 Feby. 21	C J Lewis JP
	To		
No 11	Mary Cox		
1851 Feby. 20	Frederick Oliver		
	To		
No 12	Hetta Spruill		
1851 Feby. 21	Shepphard R Spruill	1851 Feby 21.	Revd Wm H Wells of the Prot. Methodist Church & President of the same
	To		
No 13.	Sarah R Norman daughter of Thomas R.		
1851 Feby. 25	Wm C Slight	1851 Feby 26	C. J. Lewis JP
	To		
No 14	Angelica Davenport		
1851 Feby. 25	Hermon Bodwell	1851 Feby 25	R. B. Davis JP.
	To		
No 15	Naomi Chesson		
1851 March. 8.	N. Lofton Hargrave	1851 March 19	Revd. A. A. Watson Rector of Grace Church Plymouth & St Luke's in Washington (Prot Epis Church)
	To		
No 16	Elizabeth P. Walker		
1851 March 26	Ino J. Davenport	1851 Mar. 28	R B. Davis JP.
	To		
No 17	Prudence Bodwell		
1851 March 29	Wm H Jackson		
	To		
No 18	Elizabeth Collins		
1851 April 2nd	Wm L Arnold	1852 April 3rd	~~R B Davis JP~~ C J Lewis JP
	To		
No 19.	Julia Arnold		
1851 May 1	Calvin D Quinn	1851 May 1	In Grace Church Plymouth By the Revd A. A Watson Rector
	To		
No 20	Martha, Mary Simmons		

ROANOKE BEACON
AND
THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS
Published Every Friday in Plymouth, North Carolina

LE ROY HARRIS, ... Publisher and Editor

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1929

Graveyards!

Some time ago the Poet and Peasant discussed the conditions of the graveyards in and around Plymouth, yet there has been no obvious results.

Someone is responsible for the condition of these graveyards. Either the people who have loved ones laid to rest there or the church who officialy owens the property.

A citizen of Plymouth said the other day that Plymouth was always the last place to do anything, that the people who made up the citizenship of the town were dead numbers. Was this man right? Did he know what he was talking about? If we allow this un-Godly scene to continue to exist then he was right. We are not only dead numbers, but we are negligent numbers.

It has been suggested that we need a municipal cemetery but what we need most is a municipal pep organization. All schools, both small and lerge, have pep organizations to keep the spirit of the school living. The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce is just such an organization as this, but it can't accomplish as much as it should with a limited membership. Merchants are not the only men who should be a member of this organization. Every person who considers himself a citizen of Plymouth and wishes to see the town grow is eligible to membership in this organizations and it is his duty to become a member.

Were this organizations to have the membership that it should, you wouldn't be hearing the people who live near the old Baptist cemetery kicking about it being such a disgrace to the town. Lets get behind this organization and lend it our aid in every way also lets make the people who live on the West end of Third Street be proud of the appearance of that cemetery that everyone sees who comes to Plymouth to visit.

"The graveyards are full of people the world could not do without."

-Elbert Hubbard

Send queries to:

Veronica Haskett
101 Bennett Drive
Plymouth, N.C 27962

All queries free for the year 1990.
Queries will be printed as space allows.

1. According to family stories, Nancy Hubble grew up across from the Blount farm (now Mr. Small's). Is there a Hubble family cemetery there? If not does anyone know where any other Hubbles are buried? (her parents were John and Mary Hubble). Contact: Gail Souza - 2244 Cherry Street San Leandro, CA 94577.

2. Has Elizabeth Clifford (1810-1836) appeared in any cemetery records, wills or other? Contact: Gail Souza - 2244 Cherry St. San Leandro, CA 94577

3. Is there any information available on a Joshua Gallop (May 18, 1819 - May 26, 1855) from Perquimans County, N.C. and his wife Theresa Spruill (B. Nov. 18, 1813) from Roper, NC? or her sister Harriet (Oct 18, 1800 - Nov 18, 1857)? Contact: Gail Souza - 2244 Cherry St. San Leandro, CA 94577

4. My father's family has lived in the Roper area since 1725. Their branch of the family appear to have stayed in Washington County until the 1950's. If anyone has stories, newspaper articles, church records, etc. I would love to see copies of them, His parents ere William A. Blount and Frances Orde Woodley. Contact: Gail Souza - 2244 Cherry Street, San Leandro, CA 94577.

5. Does anyone have any information on George W. Jones of Washington County, NC (Tyrrell Co.) b. 1761 d. 1834. Don't have wife's name but children are Gabriel Jones m. Eunice; Mary Jones m Marmaduke Bembridge; Nancy Jones; Jester Jones was a minor at father's death. William Fagan, Sr. and Levi Fagan were left as guardians. Would appreciate any information on these family names and will be glad to share any information I have to help others. Contact: Donald P. Jones - 2422 Woodshire Circle Chesapeake, VA 23323.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.

-Abraham Lincoln